the land is reported to be saline and it is very doubtful whether it will be productive and whether it will pay them, in which case it would be useless for Government to impose high rates."

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—"May I know whether if the income is not more than 3 per cent the Government would not take it up?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"No, Sir, that is not the point."

Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU :—"May I know whether the Government have any fixed standard of income in view before they take up any work?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"Yes, Sir; the work must pay 6 per cent in ten years of the completion of the work. That is a well known rule."

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—"May I know what the rule is with regard to Mettur?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"That is the rule, Sir."

Cost and utility of the Pottanur project in East Godavari.

*1011 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the consideration of the Pottanur project in East Godavari has been completed;

(b) what the project is likely to cost; and

(c) what purpose it is expected to serve?

A.—(a) & (b) An estimate amounting to Rs. 40,000 has been sanctioned and an allotment of Rs. 20,000 has been made for the work in the current year's budget. The work is in progress.

(c) The scheme is for the extension of irrigation under the Ellore canal in the Godavari western delta. It provides for the irrigation of 1,922 acres of dry lands and an extent of 574 acres of settlement wet and bapat wet lands under two existing tanks which are at present fed by channels from the Ellore canal but will be abandoned after the execution of the scheme under reference.

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—"May I know, out of this year's allotment of Rs. 20,000, what amount has been spent up to date?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"Notice, Sir."

Land Revenue

Lands resumed on account of the assignees' failure to pay the assessment.

*1012 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : With reference to the answer to question No. 527, answered on 11th October 1928, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to lay on the table of the House the report he has received from South Kanara regarding the lands resumed year after year on account of the assignees' failure to pay the assessment?

A.—The report [a] received from the Collector of South Kanara is laid on the table.

[a] Circulated separately.

28th January 1929]

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—"May I know whether the Government propose to help the depressed classes in any way to enable them to bring these lands under cultivation ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"I do not follow that question, Sir."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—"May I know whether, in view of the fact that these are dry lands which are difficult to be brought under cultivation, Government would consider the desirability of giving these lands free of assessment for the first few years."

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"The suggestion will be considered, Sir."

Public Service

Communal representation in public service.

*1013-A Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government have issued an order fixing a percentage for the representation of various communities in several departments of the public services both as to recruitment and promotion ;

(b) if so, what departments it covers ;

(c) whether promotions have been made in the Registration department on the basis of that order ; and

(d) whether they will be pleased to place before the Council the several Government Orders passed on this subject recently and a list of promotions, if any, made on that basis in every department ?

A.—(a) & (b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 740—C. answered on 27th November 1928.

(c) The order applies to recruitment to the Madras Registration service and not to promotions in that service.

(d) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the answer to clause (C) of question No. 614 answered on the 26th November 1928, as regards the first part of the question. As regards the second part of the question, the hon. Member is referred to the answer given above to clause (c).

*1013-B Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to lay on the table the various orders of the Government in the different departments, with regard to the introduction of communal representation in public services in the matter of recruitments, promotions and selections ?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to question No. 614 (C) on 26th November 1928.